

JURY FINDS MRS. CUMMING NOT GUILTY OF MURDER

German Reds Pillage and Murder as They Retreat Before Government Troops

HOUSE TO DECLARE WAR ENDED TOMORROW EVENING

FIRST BALLOT TAKEN BRINGS AN ACQUITTAL

Talesmen Out Only Four Minutes After Hearing Tale of Torture.

INSANITY HER PLEA

Alienist Testifies That Cruel Treatment Temporarily Upset Reason.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)

Hampton, Va., April 7.—Mittie Jester Cumming, "the ten-minute bride," is a free woman tonight.

Four minutes after the jury before whom she stood accused of the murder of her husband, S. Gordon Cumming, had begun deliberation on the case, a verdict of not guilty had been agreed upon.

A quarter of an hour later she walked from the courtroom with her child Kenneth, the seven-year-old son of the man she killed, exonerated of the slaying which came as the climax of six years of mistreatment by the clubman and lawyer.

Pleaded Temporary Insanity.

Thus passed into history another famous case of a woman who killed while under the stress of temporary insanity. It was the testimony of alienists as to Mrs. Cumming's mental condition at the time of the killing, introduced by the defense this afternoon, that proved the most telling of the trial.

Dr. L. S. Foster, specialist in nervous diseases, after the outlining of a hypothetical case by Richard E. Byrd, attorney for the defense, declared that no person could have endured conditions such as presented without losing control of will, becoming impulsively insane and ceasing to be responsible for acts committed.

Nervous While Jury Is Out.

When the jury declared itself ready to render a verdict Judge R. Carter Scott was absent from the chamber, having declared a recess. While he was being sought Mrs. Cumming sat beside her father and brother nervously caressing her boy.

When Judge Scott had retaken his seat and the verdict had been received and announced Mrs. Cumming made her way through a crowd of well-wishers and silently wrung the hands of the twelve men responsible for her freedom. Then she left on the arms of friends.

Courtroom Packed.

A great crowd jammed the little courtroom throughout the final day's proceedings. Judge Scott kept strict order, once clearing the spectators' benches when applause broke out at testimony favorable to the defendant.

The case of Mrs. Cumming was outlined by Attorney Byrd as follows:

In 1908 Mittie Jester, a girl of 22 years, comely daughter of a fish dealer, was working as a salesgirl in a store in Hampton. Her face attracted the attention of Gordon Cumming, wealthy attorney, who despite his high social connections, superior education and the fact that he already was married, procured an introduction to her. Almost immediately he began making love to her, taking her out to dinners, once enticing her into a house kept by a negro woman. Later he apologized, protesting his love. He continued his attentions until he induced her to dine with him in a hotel at Newport News. There he drugged her lemonade so that she became unconscious. When she regained consciousness she fled.

Agreed to Marry Her.

A year after, Cumming agreed to marry the wronged woman upon her signing a written contract to sue for divorce on the ground of desertion and cruelty. She was eager to give an honorable name to her son, and consented to the contract and authorized the attorney who drew it to proceed with the divorce suit.

She stopped action soon after, and Cumming fled suit and got divorce, which the Supreme Court later revoked.

Cumming agreed to pay his wife \$5 a week for six months only. This he soon discontinued, so the woman was left destitute and desperate. The husband kept his marriage a secret.

Meeting him on the street, she, appealed for money for food for herself and child, was refused and

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Wins Her Freedom In Trial for Life



MRS. MITTIE CUMMING.

Who was declared not guilty on a charge of murdering her husband, S. Gordon Cumming, Virginia attorney. The jury was out only four minutes.

FAMINE LOOMS AS RAIL STRIKE HALTS FREIGHT

Switchmen's Walk-out in Chicago Spreads; Engineers and Firemen Quit.

Chicago, April 7.—The railway switchmen's strike, which started in Chicago a week ago when 650 men walked out, had spread today to every road entering the city and to the large railroad centers in the Middle West. Strike leaders claimed the movement would become nationwide by the end of this week. Engineers and firemen were reported joining the switchmen.

The strike was condemned by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and tonight representatives of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen were in conference. The union chiefs hoped to stem the strike and bring the men back into line.

Food Famine Likely.
A shut-down of industries and a food and fuel famine in Chicago was the unavoidable outlook tonight as a result of the strike which has tied up the freight movement into the city.

The stock yards industries, which have been hit the hardest by the strike, will probably be the first to suspend operations. Armour & Co. announced late today that unless the situation improves the company will close all but its general offices employees out of work.

There is only three weeks' supply of coal in Chicago and none in transit. Leading coal operators stated that in seven days the city would face a fuel famine. Mill officials admitted that a continuation of the strike for another week would force them to close their plants.

2,000 Enginemen Idle.
A serious food shortage already exists. The meat supply, according to officials of the packing companies, is sufficient only for a week. Leaders in the "outlaw" strike claim the men were dissatisfied with the slow progress made by the big brotherhood chiefs in securing increased wages and other concessions they demanded.

Approximately 2,000 enginemen were idle today. Last night 8,500 enginemen and firemen voted to join the switchmen in their strike. Representatives of the locomotive and firemen brotherhoods hoped to prevent a general walkout of their men.

Men Resist Treatment.
Edward Corrigan, vice president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who is in charge of the situation here for the enginemen, said there was general dissatisfaction in the ranks of the men.

"The enginemen have received disgraceful treatment at the hands of the railroads and the government," he said. "The men cannot live on the wages they are now getting."

The switchmen had demanded a 35 per cent increase, and it was understood enginemen and firemen would make similar demands.

Leather Profits Face Senate Investigation

Investigation in alleged profiteering in shoes and leather will begin before a Senate subcommittee next week, according to Senator McNary, of Oregon, whose resolution called for the investigation. McNary was yesterday appointed chairman of the subcommittee to make the inquiry.

Ship Waits Until Envoy Finds Pier; Lost in Brooklyn

New York, April 7.—Lost in Brooklyn and unable to direct his taxicab driver to the water front, William E. Gonzales, American Ambassador to Peru, narrowly missed his ship, the Santa Teresa, for Valparaiso, Chile, today.

Unable to find his way out of the maze of Brooklyn streets, after he had circled the borough hall several times the Ambassador appealed to the ship's company to hold the boat until he could arrive. He managed to arrive at the pier a half hour after the boat was scheduled to start and shortly thereafter was on his way to South America.

JAPS TO HOLD REDS IN CHECK

Mikado to Rule Siberia With "Iron Hand" Until Danger Passes.

Japan intends to rule all Siberia with an "iron hand" so long as it is felt there is danger from Bolshevism, according to the interpretation officials yesterday put on overthrow of the social-revolutionary government of Vladivostok and capture of the city by Japanese last Sunday.

Officials here were not inclined to criticize the stand of the Mikado's forces in Siberia. It was said that it is realized Japan faces the danger of Bolshevism seeping into Manchuria, where she has vital interests, and into Korea.

Military experts here estimate that the Japanese forces now in the Siberian region total about 45,000, of whom 11,000 are believed to be in Manchuria along the Chinese-Eastern Railway, near the Siberian border, and 35,000 throughout Siberia proper.

Reporting that the Japanese are in full military control at Vladivostok, the United States embassy at Tokyo advised the State Department yesterday there were a few casualties during the fighting. No Americans were injured.

JOHNSON GAINS IN LATE COUNT

Results Show Him Leading Wood By 46,699 in Michigan.

Detroit, April 7.—Results tabulated today from Michigan's Presidential preference primary showed a gain in strength for Senator Johnson, of California.

Totals for 1,827 precincts out of 2,421 gave Johnson 143,524. Maj. Gen. Wood was second with 96,825. Governor Lowden retained his lead over Herbert Hoover for third place by slightly less than 3,000 votes.

The same number of precincts gave Hoover a lead of nearly 5,000 votes over Governor Edwards for the Democratic endorsement.

Politicians at the Capitol, analyzing the Michigan vote, yesterday said its effects on the national campaign can hardly be overestimated. It made Senator Johnson a serious contender, they said, forcing the Old Guard leaders to take him into consideration.

It indicated, also, that Hoover's popular following may make trouble for both parties, Senators and Representatives said.

In a telegram to friends here, Johnson yesterday expressed his gratification over the result.

JOHNSON WILL NEXT CAMPAIGN NEBRASKA

New York, April 7.—Senator Johnson, after completing his New Jersey campaign this week, will leave for Nebraska.

The Nebraska primaries will be held April 20 and New Jersey primaries April 27. The latter State has twenty-eight delegates.

Johnson spoke in New Brunswick today. He will speak at Paterson and Passaic tomorrow, and Jersey City and Hoboken on Friday.

FRENCH CLASH WITH OLD FOE IN FRANKFORT

Five Reported Killed and Thirty-five Wounded in Street Fighting.

MACHINE GUNS USED

Poilu Officer Orders Volley Because Civilians Have "Threatening Attitude."

Berlin, April 7.—The first armed clash between Germans and French in Frankfurt is reported in a dispatch from that city late today saying that five were killed and thirty-five wounded by machine gun fire.

A French officer commanding a guard of Moroccan negro soldiers, the dispatch says, thought the attitude of some civilian onlookers was threatening and ordered his soldiers to open fire.

London, April 7.—The defeated German Communist army, driven from its last stronghold in Essen by the advancing government troops, has started plundering the country in its retreat, a news agency dispatch said today.

Advices here indicated the Reichswehr were making rapid strides in their campaign to restore order in the Ruhr industrial district, although indiscriminate murder and looting were reported in some districts.

"The Socialist and Unionist leaders have lost control of the masses," one dispatch said.

Sanguinary fighting was reported near Bottrop.

Deny Breaking Faith.

Herr Gessler, President Ebert's minister of defense, and Gen. Von Seeckt, military commander, have issued a proclamation telling the people of the Ruhr valley that the Berlin government did not violate any agreement with the Red leaders when it ordered troops to advance.

French occupation of the German Rhine cities was a "military act of violence" and was "unjustified" by any act of the German government, Germany declared in her note to France protesting the occupation, a Berlin dispatch today said.

Claim Course Justified.
"The Rhine towns actually were occupied before the French government's note reached Berlin," the German protest declared.

"It is impossible that the treaty of Versailles intended to prevent Germany from restoring order in her territory as quickly as possible. That territory was disturbed by robberies and murders."

"The German government would have acted inexorably if it had waited longer. The idea that the dispatch of troops to the scene of the Ruhr uprising could in any way involve France is absurd."

"Even had the German government intended or committed any violation of the treaty, France's military act of violence would not have been justified."

New Conspiracy Bared.
A far-reaching military conspiracy, paralleling in importance the Von Kapp insurrection, is reported to have been revealed in Munich. The conspiracy included making Gen. Erich Ludendorff Bavarian dictator and Dr. Heine economic chief, the dispatch said, adding that Heine was known as a Bavarian separatist.

PARLEY OVER POLICY ON FRENCH ADVANCE

The United States, Great Britain and Italy are now negotiating with France to arrive at a definite policy in connection with the French advance into Germany, it was said at the State Department yesterday.

The occupation of Homburg, Darmstadt, Frankfurt and Hanau by the French was officially reported to the State Department yesterday by the United States Embassy at Paris. According to these advices the French occupied these towns without serious trouble. One battalion of German police troops surrendered in barracks. It was reported, and negotiations for the laying down of their arms, were in progress.

Speeders Break Through Fence For Twelfth Time

Frostburg, Md., April 7.—For the twelfth time this year Joseph Davis rebuilt a section of his fence at the "Yates' speed corner," Grahamtown, today.

A motorcycle plowed through the fence last night. Although the driver of the machine sprained his ankle, he escaped before Davis could demand payment of damages. Yates' corner is the scene of many accidents.

ARMY TRAINING BILL DOOMED, IS BELIEF

Senate Vote Expected Today or Tomorrow But Defeat Seems Sure.

Senator James W. Wadsworth, Jr., of New York, chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, hopes to have a vote today or tomorrow on the universal military training provisions of the army reorganization bill. Defeat of the proposal was forecast yesterday, when several additional Senators indicated their opposition to it.

Wadsworth conducted a "class in economics" in an effort to explode the theory that the cost of universal training would be more than the country ought to be asked to bear in view of its existing financial condition. With the aid of charts hanging from the walls of the Senate chamber, and a pointer he sought to show the ultimate economy in his bill.

Calls Old Course Murder.

"Are we to continue to send men to camps to learn how to fight after the fight has started?" he asked. "Chances next time are we won't have two or three allies to fight off the enemy while we are getting ready to fight. Our act was an indictment against the American people. We have no right to ask men to go into battle without training. Ninety per cent of the replacement troops sent to Colonel Donovan of the old 69th New York regiment did not know how to open the bolt of a rifle and never had on gas masks. That's murder. Men were slaughtered because they did not have sufficient training."

"It took us thirteen months and three weeks to put our first division over the top. Don't count on this sort of luck forever. The only way to wage war economically is to life and property is to give young men a chance before you send them into battle."

Pomerene Blames Officers.

Senator Atlee Pomerene, of Ohio, opponent of universal training, declared that the ignorance of the soldiers was "not so much due to the unpreparedness of soldiers but to the unpreparedness of their superior officers."

"If I had sons I would want them to have military training," Mr. Pomerene said, "but it would not be right for me to say that because that is my judgment I should vote to have other men's sons trained."

BLUE CONFIRMED FOR HEALTH JOB

Nomination of Rupert Blue to be Assistant Surgeon General at large, Public Health Service, a new office, was confirmed yesterday by the Senate. Blue was formerly head of the service.

The women were released on \$1,000 bond each.

The picketers announced the receipt of \$3,000 cash for further work and a "ball fund" of \$20,000. The cash subscriptions, none of which was solicited, came from Frank P. Walsh, Dr. William J. M. A. Maloney, of New York City, and J. Scott, who declared himself "a friend." His address is unknown. Each of the men gave \$1,000. Mr. Walsh donated \$5,000 for the ball fund, as did Robert Paul Mayer, of New York, while an anonymous donor furnished \$10,000.

Would Exempt Insurance from Tax.
Representative George W. Long, of Philadelphia, proposed to exempt marine, inland and fire insurance from taxation in a bill introduced in the House yesterday amending the revenue act.

Entire Sinn Fein Council of Cork Ordered Jailed by Dublin Castle

London, April 7.—The Dublin Castle authorities have ordered the arrest of the whole Sinn Fein city corporation of Cork, according to a dispatch to the London Daily Herald from the Irish capital. The orders for the arrest have fallen into the hands of the Sinn Feiners, and if an attempt is made to carry it out, "most of the men sought will be missing," adds the dispatch.

Lord French's statement that there is a split in the ranks of the Sinn Fein was dismissed as "absurd" by prominent rebel leaders in Dublin today. It was admitted there may be divergences of opinion, but the ranks were declared to be firmly knitted together.

In Sinn Fein circles the story is making the rounds of a "plot" by Dublin Castle to connect the responsible Sinn Fein leaders with the deaths of British agents. Facts are in possession of the leaders, however, which, when disclosed will frustrate this alleged plan, it was said.

PICKETS CITE COLBY'S VIEW ON IRELAND

Signs at State Department Quote Denial of British Right to Rule.

HEARING TO BE MONDAY

Federal Officers Take Charge of Case Against Women Out on Bond.

The British Embassy pickets, as the little band of women who came to Washington to advocate an Irish Republic have become known, yesterday transferred their activities to the State Department.

Armed with a new series of placards, they paraded before the State Department building after they had announced their intention of seeking an audience with Secretary of State Colby. Their standards, they said, bore excerpts of a speech made by Mr. Colby in New York on May 14, 1916, and the legends read as follows:

"I cannot stand by, mute and passionless, as these votive offerings are laid upon the altar of patriotism."

"The death of your martyrs has called into existence millions of Irishmen by principle."

"There is not even a scintilla of legality in England's claim to rule Ireland."

From Speech at Carnegie Hall.
Mr. Colby, the picketers said, made these remarks during his speech, which was at Carnegie Hall, New York, the occasion being a welcome to Mrs. Hanna Skelington upon her arrival in America.

The picketers who bore Mr. Colby's words on high were Miss Catherine McKeon and Miss Mary Galvin, of Philadelphia, and Miss Katherine Kennedy, of Brooklyn.

While a goodly number of policemen and policewomen, together with a large crowd of the curious, gathered near the picketers, no attempt was made to arrest or molest them. The women marched silently to and fro until about 5 o'clock yesterday. Then they called it a day, and announced they would renew their activity this morning at 11 o'clock.

In Federal Hands.
Federal officials yesterday took charge of the proceedings against the four women arrested Tuesday for picketing the British Embassy.

On their appearance in police court after a night in the House of Detention the women were turned over to United States Commissioner Mason Richardson, who set preliminary hearing for 11 a. m. Monday.

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The Westminster Gazette says: "Frankly we dislike this separate action both on its merits and because whether it is justified or not it signifies the failure of the allies jointly to solve a problem which is likely to arise in many forms before Europe settles down. As a settlement of the Ruhr problem, the situation seems to have no merit."

The Fall Mall Gazette says: "Berlin has overridden an explicit barrier of the treaty of Versailles. This is a challenge which the allies cannot ignore if they are to retain a shadow of self-respect. To all appearances France has resolved to put her foot down firmly upon so vital an issue and will have a most genuine ground for resentment if her allies do not fully support her attitude."

Labat to Address French Club.
Lieut. J. Labat, of the French High Commission, will be one of the principal speakers at the French Club of the Washington Salon, 1517 H street northwest, tomorrow night.

Dr. Carroll E. Bingham, director of first aid, American Red Cross, Potomac Division, will speak.

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Joins Diplomatic Social Set Here



SENORA DIEGO-FERNANDEZ.

wife of Senor Diego-Fernandez, minister plenipotentiary and counselor of the Mexican embassy, is a popular addition to the diplomatic set in Washington society.

ENGLISH FROWN ON FRENCH ACTION

Britain Considering Withdrawal of Troops from Cologne.

By W. ORTON TEWSON, Staff Correspondent of The Washington Herald.

London, April 7.—I understand that when Sir George Graham, British charge d'affaires at Paris, saw Premier Millerand in Paris yesterday he told the premier that, pending investigation into the situation created by the French advance, the British government reserved the right to withdraw its troops from Cologne. The result of this investigation was tonight awaited with anxiety.

The question is one, perhaps, of position. The French may claim that Frankfurt comes within the Mayence zone, which, under the treaty, they are entitled to occupy. Strictly speaking, the French line would run through Frankfurt or, at all events, near the suburbs of that city.

The grave view taken here of the situation in Ruhr is reflected in editorials in the evening papers. The Star says:

"The French government appears to be acting in its own name, not in that of the allies, but we hope that the point will be speedily cleared up. If France's intervention is conducted with a desire to stabilize conditions, rehabilitate German society, re-start machinery of trade and commerce and put down militarism, it may be of enormous advantage to both countries. But we do not understand why the French republic is acting alone in this drastic hour. Do the allies approve, or are they on the fence?"

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DEBATE TO END AT 5 O'CLOCK; PASSAGE SURE

Vote on Resolution Will Be Drawn on Strictly Partisan Lines.

TO BE NO AMENDMENTS

Rule Allows Recommitting Of Measure, Which Means Two Ballots.

The Porter resolution declaring the war with Germany at an end will be passed by the House about 6:30 tomorrow evening.

This was made certain by the action of the Rules Committee yesterday in reporting out a special rule providing that debate on the resolution, which begins tomorrow, shall close at 5 p. m. Friday. The time is to be equally divided between those favoring and those opposing the measure.

The rule prohibits the offering of amendments, but permits one motion to recommit, which the Democrats will offer. This means there will be two roll-calls, one on the motion to recommit and the other on final passage. The average time consumed in a roll-call is about forty-five minutes.

Republicans Solid.
The apparently solid line-up of the Republican majority in favor of the resolution leaves no doubt as to a favorable action by the House. Democratic leaders claim an equally solid line-up against the resolution on their side, which dooms to certain failure any attempt to re-pass the measure over President Wilson's veto.

Democrats on the Rules Committee today offered a substitute rule specifically fixing the time of debate at ten hours and permitting the consideration of amendments. By a strictly partisan line-up of 7 to 3 the substitute was rejected.

The rule reported out by the committee will be called up today at 11 o'clock under a unanimous consent agreement reached yesterday and will be debated for two hours. Following its adoption, debate on the peace resolution will get under way.

Minority Report Submitted.
The minority report signed by six Democrat members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, opposing passage of the resolution, was submitted to the House yesterday by Representative Flood, of Virginia. The report is a voluminous document going into great detail to support the contentions that the resolution is unconstitutional; that it does not protect the rights of the United States and will imperil the hold of this country on the former German ships and Germany property seized by the Alien Property Custodian.

"It is astonishing," the report says, "that the Congress of the United States should seriously consider the proposition that our country should seek the protection of a treaty which it has not the courage to ratify."

The